

# Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ February 11, 2024



## Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and ends just prior to the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, when the Paschal Triduum begins.

**This Wednesday, Ash Wednesday Masses are at 8:15 a.m. (with the school) and 6 p.m.  
A Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes will also be offered at 12 Noon.**

Lent is the principal penitential season in the Church year. All the Christian faithful are urged to develop and maintain a voluntary program of self-denial (in addition to the Lenten regulations which follow), serious prayer and the performing of deeds of charity and mercy, including the giving of alms.

Prayerfully consider what your prayer, fasting, and almsgiving will include this year.

### REMEMBER THE LENTEN REGULATIONS:

- 1. ABSTINENCE** - Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- 2. FASTING** - Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to each person's needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.
- 3.** To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.


2300 Pontoon Road  
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800


After-Hours Emergencies  
314-266-8387

Web: [stelizabethgc.org](http://stelizabethgc.org)

 [@stelizabeth.gc](https://www.facebook.com/stelizabeth.gc)

 [@stelizabeth.gc](https://www.instagram.com/stelizabeth.gc)

 [@stelizabeth\\_gc](https://twitter.com/stelizabeth_gc)

 [@stelizabethgc](https://www.youtube.com/stelizabethgc)

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Alfred Tumwesigye, Pastor  
Office x1002 | Residence x1201  
[pastor@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:pastor@stelizabethgc.org)

Deacon Michael Halbrook  
x1005 | [mhalbrook@dio.org](mailto:mhalbrook@dio.org)

Bret Ware  
Parish Secretary & Office Admin  
[secretary@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:secretary@stelizabethgc.org)

Jackie Jones, Bookkeeper  
x1003 | [jjones@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:jjones@stelizabethgc.org)

Chris Spanberger  
Director of Religious Education (School)  
[cspan@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:cspan@stelizabethgc.org)

Cathy Cassy, Director of Music

### SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

School Phone: (618) 877-3300 x2

School Fax: (618) 877-3352

Pre-School: (618) 877-3300 x2003

Michelle Williams, Principal  
[mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org)

Loretta Joyce, School Secretary  
[ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org)

### CALVARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY

2910 S. State Route 157  
Edwardsville, IL  
(618) 656-5464

### ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Finance Council: Charlotte Charbonnier

School Board: Adam Meyenburg

Parent/Teacher Org.: Natasha Reidl

Ladies Sodality: Tammi Mooshegian

Holy Name Men's Club: Rob Hutson

Men at Prayer: Tom Cholevik

Funeral Dinners: Pam Ames

Athletic Director: Joe Philips

Maintenance Team: Bud Charbonnier

**Strong in Faith  
since 1871**

*Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.*

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We commit ourselves to the discipleship and stewardship way of life as commanded by Jesus Christ and revealed by Sacred Scripture and Tradition. We are committed to implementing the Four Pillars of Discipleship and Stewardship of our diocese:

**Hospitality:** To maintain a warm and welcoming environment, and invite others to join us in prayer, especially Sunday Mass;

**Prayer:** To journey the path to Heaven together through celebration of the sacraments and ever-deepening lives of prayer;

**Formation:** To continue sharing, learning, and accepting the teachings of our Lord and His Church; and

**Service:** To share our Lord's Love by reaching out to all in service, especially the afflicted.

## PRAYER & LITURGY

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

**Monday, February 12**

**Monday of the 6th Week in Ordinary Time**

No Mass

**Tuesday, February 13**

**Tuesday of the 6th Week in Ordinary Time**

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Thomas Byer+ by the Byer Family

**Wednesday, February 14**

**Ash Wednesday**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Joe & Maggie Grabowski

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Donna McCoy+ by Norma Lesko

**Thursday, February 15**

**Thursday after Ash Wednesday**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Romana Lofink+

by Theresa Harding & Family

**Friday, February 16**

**Friday after Ash Wednesday**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Dale Fletcher+ by Darlene Fletcher

**Saturday, February 17**

**Saturday after Ash Wednesday**

No Mass


**Saturday-Sunday, February 17-18**

**First Sunday of Lent**

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Dennis Riggs+

by Dan, Cheryl, Danielle & Ciara Folkerts

8:00 a.m. Mass: 

Richard A. Willaredt+ by Janice Willaredt

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

Mass offerings are available (\$10), as are memorials on the 14 Day Candle / Sanctuary Lamp, and Altar Flowers. Contact the parish office.

## Be with Jesus

### Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

### Holy Hour

Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm



February is dedicated to  
the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February:  
For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

**This Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ord. Time**

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45

The first reading regulates procedures for dealing with people with skin disease. They are denounced unclean and must live alone. Paul calls the Corinthians to give glory to God in everything they do. In the Gospel, Jesus is moved with pity for a man with leprosy. Jesus touches the man, and he is made clean.

**Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent**

Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

To repent means to feel regret and sorrow and to change, or "turn from" what is evil. Gospel is a word meaning "good news." To "repent and believe in the Gospel" is the twofold call of the Christian, which is brought into profound relief during the Lenten season. This time of prayer and preparation for Easter shows there is indeed cause for regret and sorrow, and a need for change. And yet, what we are turning toward as we turn from sin is always cause for joy and hope.

### 14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **Police, Fire, EMS, Dispatch and all other First Responders**. To offer the 14 day candle in honor or a loved one, contact the Parish Office.

### ALTAR FLOWERS

This week, the Altar Flowers are **in memory of the dearly departed parishioners of Saint Elizabeth Parish**. Honor a loved one with the altar flowers. Contact the Parish Office.

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIALS

Deceased Members of  
Holy Name Men's Club  
Czwarnog & Ostrenga Families

Kierski Family

Bill Loftus

John & Theresa Straubinger

Carl Williams

Alan Winters

Keith Winters

Brinker & Soboleski Families

Delores Brinker

Paula Gushleff Koliste

DeRuntz & Pfaff Families

Louise Harrison

Kenneth Jaimet

Deceased Members of  
St. Elizabeth Choir

Gene Cassy

Jim Dederia

Cassy Family

Pieper Family

Crawshaw Family

Charles Dickey

Binney Family

Alma & Greg Voss

Chad Sigite

Lisa Garcia-Fensterman

Jim Alsop and Family

Gus & Angeline Scaturro

Dortch Family

Richard A. Willaredt

Lisa Dellamano

Rosalie Boyd

Joseph & Victoria Krystopa

Michael & Leona Bonach

Richard Horbelt

Gus & Angie Scaturro

Johnson Family

Jones & Harbin Families

Lesko & Danheiser Families

Mary Mennerick

Glen Hommert

Marvin Wiedemer

Mark Malone

Bill Mathes

Angela & Ronald Briggs Jr.

Robert & Lorraine Joshu

Jesse & Lorraine Gonterman

Jim Noeth & Brothers

Noeth & M. Papp Families

Brian Foreman

Tony & Mary Bellue

Jim Dittman

Pattie Jackson

Ida Gragg

Pawlak & Sertich Families

Deceased Members of Ladies Sodality

Betty Lampitt

Connie Hayes Family

Bursik/Votoupal Family

Ann Fabisher



## LEARNING & LIVING AS DISCIPLES

**GRAB A RICE BOWL!** Join a transformative Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's Rice Bowl from the Gathering Space beginning this week. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the impact of global hunger and climate change on vulnerable communities around the world, and we will pray, fast and give alms to help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more.



### SACRAMENTS AT CATHEDRAL

Our 3rd graders are heading to the Cathedral in Springfield for the Sacrament of Confirmation & their first Holy Communion next Saturday, February 17. Pray for them! You can also tune in and watch the Mass at 11:00 a.m. at [spicathedral.org](http://spicathedral.org). Click on the "Livestream" link on the homepage.

Our young people will then be back here at St. Elizabeth for a special celebration at the 10:30 Mass the next morning, on Sunday, February 18. Join us for that special Mass and a light reception afterwards.

### Making a Good Confession

Has it been a while since you've taken part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? We want to help you be ready.

#### PREPARE:

Spend time prayerfully examining your conscience to remember moments where you've fallen short of living God's law, or have distanced yourself from God, the Church, or others around you.

#### WHEN IT'S TIME:

Enter the confessional and greet the priest. Make the sign of the cross and say "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It's been [however many days/months/years] since my last confession."

**List your sins** - Mention venial (everyday) sins and mortal sins, which are more serious. Try to be thorough, but it's OK if you don't remember every single sin. It may be more of a conversation, as the priest may ask questions or comment. It doesn't have to be a non-stop laundry list of sins. When you're done, conclude by saying "I'm sorry for these and all my sins."

**Listen to the priest** - When you're done confessing your sins, the priest may offer some guidance and suggest ways to avoid sins in the future. He'll then give you a penance, which could be a form of prayer, a service or some work of mercy.

**Pray the Act of Contrition** - there is even a version on paper handy in the confessional!

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

**Receive absolution from God, via the priest** - The priest will say the following prayer to absolve you of your sins: "God, the Father of mercies, through the death and the resurrection of His Son has reconciled the world to Himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Make the sign of the cross and close with Amen."

Depart and fulfill your act of penance.

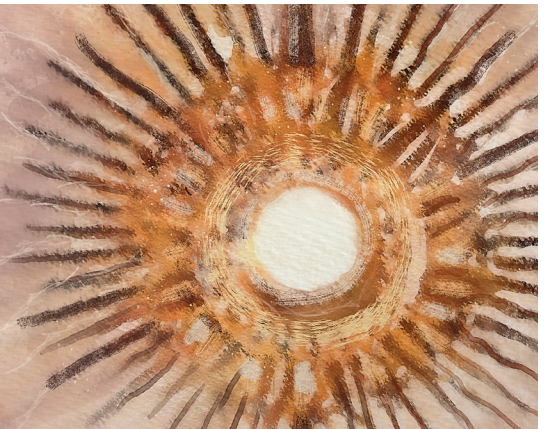
For more preparation information, check out:

[hallow.com/blog/how-to-go-to-confession-the-sacrament-of-penance-reconciliation/](http://hallow.com/blog/how-to-go-to-confession-the-sacrament-of-penance-reconciliation/)



"All of us are called to experience more intensely every Eucharist, in all its dimensions, and particularly its eschatological and missionary dimensions. In this regard, I would reiterate that 'we cannot approach the Eucharistic table without being drawn into the mission which, beginning in the very heart of God, is meant to reach all people' (ibid., 84). The Eucharistic renewal that many local Churches are laudably promoting in the post-Covid era will also be essential for reviving the missionary spirit in each member of the faithful. With how much greater faith and heartfelt enthusiasm should we recite at every Mass: 'We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again!'" - Pope Francis, Address for World Mission Sunday 2024

**Is time in Adoration a possible way for you to grow during Lent this year? Join us in Eucharistic Adoration... and then join in Mission!**



**This Week on FORMED®**



**Whole 40: Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent**

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.

Thanks to our Men's Club, parishioners have access to free Catholic programming on FORMED on any device.

Go to [signup.FORMED.org](http://signup.FORMED.org) and select our parish name.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH ON THURSDAY NIGHTS**

Has it been a while since you've thought much about some of the aspects of our faith? Join us on Thursdays from 7-8 in the PLC Library:

- 2/15: "Election" - Chosen by Christ
- 2/22: The Creed
- 2/29: The Lord's Prayer
- 3/7: Christian Moral Living & Social Justice
- 3/14: The Dignity of Life / A Consistent Ethic of Life
- 3/21: The Meaning of Holy Week

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS: SAVE THESE SUMMER DATES!**



Totus Tuus in Granite City  
July 7-12

Vacation Bible School:  
SCUBA! at St. Elizabeth  
August 5-9



More info this Spring.

**PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LOURDES**

Please join us on a pilgrimage with Fr. Charles Robinson, F.I. to Fatima and Lourdes, with a stop in Avila Spain, as well as Azpeitia, Spain where St. Ignatius of Loyola was born, and more! Daily Mass. September 10-19, 2024. \$3595/per person. \$150 early bird discount if registered by Feb. 15th, 2024. For more information please visit [www.QoHTours.com](http://www.QoHTours.com) or call us at 1-800-213-4295.

**LUKE 18 RETREAT**

St. Jerome church will host our annual Luke 18 retreat for 7th and 8th graders, the weekend of February 16th-18th. This will be our 31st year holding this retreat. We would like to invite all 7th & 8th graders to join us! Experience God's love in new and exciting ways through games, songs, faith sharing, and a series of talks given by area high school and college students. The weekend offers youth an experience of God's love on a more personal level than is usually possible in a catechetical setting. With "youth ministering to youth", hopefully the students are able to relate more easily to the experience of living a Catholic Christian life at home and at school.

For information letter and registration, please go to [www.stjeromeparish.org](http://www.stjeromeparish.org) look under announcements and click on the Luke 18 button.

\*You can also find the registration form & letter in the gathering space here at St. Elizabeth.

- Brenda Neumann, Youth Minister at St. Jerome

**YOUNG DISCIPLES SOCIETY**

**Young Disciples Teens: Join us after the 10:30 Sunday Mass. February Meetings: February 11 & 25. Join us - and bring a teenage friend!**

**JOIN US IN INDY**

To close out the third year of the National Eucharistic Revival, the U.S. Bishops invite us to join them in Indianapolis next year for the first National Eucharistic Congress in 83 years. The Congress will be held at Lucas Oil Stadium and Indianapolis Convention Center from July 17-21, 2024 - next summer. It's just a short drive from us, so we're hoping to take a contingent from our parish for at least a couple of days of this generational event. **If you have any interest at all, please contact Bret in the parish office.**

**Mercy Minute**

"I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in You". (Diary, 327). "By means of this image I shall grant many graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy, because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works." (Diary, 742).



**FATHER MCGIVNEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S PRAYER Breakfast**



**GUEST SPEAKER!**

FOR MEN, YOUNG MEN, DADS, SONS, GRANDFATHERS, & GRANDSONS.

JOIN US FOR MASS AT 8:30AM IN THE MCG CHAPEL WITH BREAKFAST CATERED BY EDLEY'S & GUEST SPEAKER TO FOLLOW.

GUEST SPEAKER: DEACON ROB SGAMBELLURI

\$20 PER PERSON | RSVP BY FEB 21ST



**SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024 | 8:30AM**  
FATHER MCGIVNEY HIGH SCHOOL GYM

**SPONSORED BY EXODUS**

Limited to the first 250 guests



## PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY, SERVICE

### LADIES SODALITY KENTUCKY TRIP

Ladies Sodality is planning a fall trip to the Ark Encounter & Creation Museum in Kentucky. The trip will begin early on September 23 with return home on the 24th. Bus is \$120.50 per person; admission tickets are \$80. Hotel reservations pending, but the plan is to have breakfast at the hotel and use meal vouchers at the Ark (\$16.99) and Creation Museum (\$13.77) Interested? Contact Pam Winn at 618-641-7274 ASAP. We need commitments by May 15 and money for bus and admission by July 1.

### FISH FRY SIGNS

If you're willing to place a fish fry sign in your yard or at your place of business, please text or call Rob at 618-973-5459 with the address and he will drop off the sign. Thank you!

### MAGNETS & STICKERS

2" stickers and 4" magnets of our Church & School shield logo are available in the parish office. *Any donation you're willing to make to the Mission & Ministry (Faith Formation) fund* for one of these stickers & magnets will help to offset the cost of our Spring NET Retreat for the youth of our school - and anything beyond that will help to give us our seed funds for this summer's VBS!



## SCHOLARSHIPS

### LADIES SODALITY SCHOLARSHIP

Attention high school seniors... It's that time of year again; time to apply for the Ladies Sodality Scholarship. You need to be a graduate of St Elizabeth Catholic School, attend mass at St. Elizabeth, and be planning to attend a college or technical school. Pick up an application at the Parish office. - Joyce Alexander, Scholarship chairman.

### REISKE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now available at the Parish Office. Any college bound parishioner is eligible who: Graduated from St. Elizabeth School, Presently is a member of St. Elizabeth Parish; Is active in the Parish; Attends Mass EVERY WEEKEND; Has financial need.

Applications are due by Friday, March 29, 2024, no later than 4:00 pm. Fr. Alfred and the Selection Committee will then review the applications and present their selection to the Pastoral Council. First-time applicants will have preferential consideration and no one applicant will be awarded the scholarship more than two times

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, February 11

After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC)  
9 a.m. - Men at Prayer  
After 10:30 Mass to 1 p.m. - Young Disciples Teens (PLC Upper Room)  
11:30 a.m. - Confirmation Retreat  
6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)  
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

### Monday, February 12

### Tuesday, February 13

### Wednesday, February 14

#### Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins Day of Fasting & Abstinence

8:15 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Mass (with ashes)  
12 Noon - Distribution of Ashes  
4-7 p.m. - Fish Fry (Cafeteria)  
7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

### Thursday, February 15

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - Adoration (Church)  
7 p.m. - OCIA (PLC Library)  
9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

### Friday, February 16

#### Lenten Friday - Day of Abstinence

4-7 p.m. - Fish Fry (Cafeteria)

### Saturday, February 17

11 a.m. - 3rd Grade Sacraments at Cathedral - watch at spicathedral.org  
Rite of Sending (RCIA) at 4:30 Mass

### Sunday, February 18

After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC)  
3rd Graders' first Communion at St. Elizabeth at 10:30 Mass; After 10:30 Mass: Reception for 3rd Grade Sacrament Recipients  
2:30 p.m. - Rite of Election (OCIA) at Cathedral  
6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)  
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

## SAVE THESE DATES!

Neither are officially called yet, but if it continues to be God's Will, and if both receive calls to Holy Orders from Bishop Paprocki, parishioners may want to attend two ordinations at Cathedral soon.

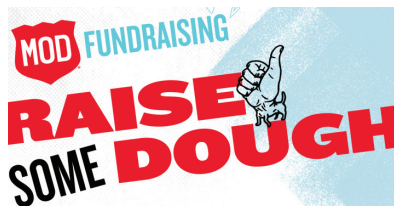
If you are interested in a car pool, please contact the parish office:

- **Friday, April 12 (evening): Ordination of Deacons** - could include Seminarian Ryan Kehoe, who was here the 2022-23 school year.

- **Saturday, May 25 (day): Ordination of Priests** - could include Deacon Daniel McGrath, who has been with us this school year.



## AROUND THE AREA



### SUPPORT ABL & EAT SOME PIZZA

Come eat some pizza & support A Beacon of Light Pregnancy Help Center! MOD Pizza, 2300A Troy Road, Edwardsville (next to Home Goods). Monday, February 19, 2024. Come in or order online using Fundraiser Code MODGIVES20 and MOD will donate 20% of your bill to support ABL's great work.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

Saturday we had our Special Olympics Banquet. This is if not the biggest and best event we have in the year. The food was really good and there were lots of friendships made and lots of dancing. I want to thank the Knights and other workers that helped to make this event such a success. What an awesome council we have, and I invite the men who have strayed away or those who have not taken a look at us yet, to please come back or join us on our journey to help the parishes and the community. Go to [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus) Put in Granite City Council 1098 or call me at 628-789-0337. Thank you for reading, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight.



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

# ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL



ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL PTO  
**80s**  
Rewind  
MARCH 2, 2024

## AUCTION TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

Tickets are now on sale!

<http://events.handbid.com/auctions/rewind-to-the-80s>

There are still spots to volunteer for craft nights:

<https://signup.com/go/RbSOxGU>

## THANK YOU AGAIN!

Thank you to all of our parish & school families who stopped by and visited our wonderful school during our Open House to close Catholic School's Week after the 10:30 Mass... and thank you to all of our students and alumni who did such a great job at Mass!



Catholic Schools  
United in Faith and Community



## THANK YOU PTO!

Thank you to the PTO for providing the food truck for our teachers to enjoy lunch at the end of last week's Catholic School's Week!

## SUMMER SCHOOL:

Interested in attending summer school? Times / days did not work in the past? Please complete the attached form and give us feedback. We are looking to accommodate those who are interested:

<https://stelizabethgc.org/summer-school>



## PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 2/11- Rev. John Sohm Rev. Rodney Schwartz 2/13- Rev. Robert Porter 2/15- Rev. Sunder Ery 2/17- Msgr. Jeffrey Goeckner 2/18- Rev. Joseph Simburger 2/19- Rev. Larry Brunette 2/25- Rev. Kenneth Steffen

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 2/11- Msgr. John W. Spreen 2/12- Rev. John R. Nolan 2/13- Rev. John Lupton 2/14- Rev. Patrick Bourke



## PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Please reach out to the parish office and let us know of any active military persons for whom you would like the parish to pray. Thank you!

*Almighty and Eternal God, protect the members of our Armed Services as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, to all who love them. May they ever praise you for your loving care. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Nolan Yehling- USAF, Whiteman AFB; Brandon Weidner- US Coast Guard, Sault Sainte Marie, MI; Kody Presswood- Staff Sergeant, US Space Force, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Nick Glasgow- USMC, California

# CELEBRATING SUNDAYS FOR CATHOLIC FAMILIES

This is from 'Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families' by Kerri Mecke-Lazano. It includes the Gospel, a reflection, a question to ponder before AND after Mass as well as a section to consider how you can take the Gospel with you for the rest of the week. Please use them to help you and your family get more out of the Mass each week!

## HEARING THE WORD:

Mark 1: 40-45

## REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

Jesus meets a leper, who begs to be made clean. To be clean meant that the leper could rejoin the community, rather than live as an outcast. Jesus was able to see this man with the eyes of compassion and to offer him a way out of his life of suffering. When we experience pain, misery, and anguish, we realize how much we need one another and God. How can we share God's love and closeness with those who feel cut off from the support of the community?

## ON THE WAY TO MASS

Have you ever felt left out, excluded, or cut off from others? How would it feel to be included again?

## ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

During the week, we may get busy with school-work, household chores, or other things that fill our days. In these times, how can we remember to turn to Jesus for help when we are in need?

## LIVING THE WORD

Our elderly or shut-in friends may feel that they have been forgotten and excluded from society. How can your family reach out and include an elderly neighbor, a retired priest or sister, or help a homebound parishioner feel more connected and included? Write a letter, make a phone call, draw a picture, bake a treat, and let them know how much they mean to your family. Be sure to share stories, memories, and smiles.



# STEWARDSHIP

## Our Financial Stewardship February 4, 2024

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 32 Regular Income	\$8,319.00		
122 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$68.19			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$269.00		
Online Giving	\$1,710.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,298.00</b>	<b>\$9,104.00</b>	<b>\$1,194.00</b>
<b>YTD TOTALS</b>	<b>\$249,851.26</b>	<b>\$291,328.00</b>	<b>(\$41,476.74)</b>

Weekly and YTD Goals are calculated based on our annual fiscal year budget submitted to the Diocese and what is required to break even.

### Other Gifts:

Tuition Assistance	\$1,025.00
Building Repairs & Maint.	\$390.00
Special Projects	\$250.00
Mission & Ministry	\$315.00
Votive Offering	\$55.00
Catholic Charities	\$115.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$10.00
First Offering	\$50.00
Church in Cntrl/East. Europe	\$65.00
Catholic Times	\$32.00
Church in Latin America	\$85.00
Other Not Specified	\$570.00

### Parish Tithing Reporting

Our parish tithe to the Diocese to support the administration, ministries, and work of our Diocese is 10% of our regular monthly income. **December tithe: \$4,927.00**

### ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Consider online giving through GIVE CENTRAL. For more information, visit <https://www.givecentral.org/location/412/allevants>

### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

**“Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” - 1 Corinthians 10:31**

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other “gods” (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, “Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?”

### ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE

**Thank you for your generous stewardship & support of St. Elizabeth Parish & School!**

2023 annual contribution statements are now available at the Parish Life Center. Please stop by and pick yours up at your convenience. If you would like it mailed, please call Bret or Jackie at the Parish Office at 618-877-3300.

Did you know? We send out 407 sets of contribution envelopes. 343 families regularly contribute via envelopes or online giving via GiveCentral. If you contribute via GiveCentral and would like to save us time and money by being removed from the envelope mailing, please contact the parish office. We'd be happy to assist!



## SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation:** If you have been away from the Church and the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a while, feel free to contact the parish office for guidance & materials to help you prepare to return to the Sacraments. In addition to Confessions offered from 3-4 p.m. on Saturdays, you could also schedule an individual time for Reconciliation.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Anointing of the Sick is appropriate for any upcoming surgery, prolonged illness, or in the event of emergency or danger of death. Please call the office if you or a loved one needs to be anointed.

**Infant & Child Baptism:** For children under the age of 8, please submit the forms at [stelizabethgc.org/baptism](http://stelizabethgc.org/baptism) and sign up for a Baptism Preparation class at least a month before your desired date of Baptism. For questions or emergencies, please contact the Parish Office. Baptisms are usually celebrated after the 10:30 Mass most Sundays or at 7 p.m. some Wednesdays.

**Matrimony:** To begin preparation for Holy Matrimony, please contact the parish office to set up initial appointments and preparation at least six months (recommended twelve months) before your desired date. At least an introductory interview must be completed before a date can be set.

**Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, first Holy Communion) for children 8 and over, or for adults:** Contact the parish office.

## PASTORAL CARE

**Entering the Church:** If you are new to the Catholic faith and interested in learning more about the church or about entering the church, welcome! Contact the parish office for a meeting with Father Alfred or Deacon Michael.

**Communion to the Homebound:** If you or a family member are, or are going to be, homebound, whether at home or in a care facility, please notify the parish office. Medical and care facilities are unable to inform us of their Catholic residents and patients. We would be happy to arrange to visit and bring you Holy Communion. Please contact the parish office for arrangements.

**Declarations of Nullity:** In some cases, a man or a woman desires healing through a declaration by a Church tribunal (a Catholic Church court), which does not deny that a relationship existed, but simply states that the relationship was missing something that the Church requires for a valid marriage, falling short of at least one of the essential elements required for a binding union. (Commonly called an 'annulment.')

Father Alfred, Deacon Michael, and Laura Black are available as Advocates before our diocesan tribunal for those needing assistance with declarations of nullity. Call the parish office to set up an appointment.

## BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING












Published weekly by St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School and printed locally by Schwartzkopf Printing in Alton, Illinois. To recommend content for inclusion in the bulletin, email [bulletin@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:bulletin@stelizabethgc.org) prior to Monday at Noon. For information on bulletin advertising, contact Bret Ware in the parish office.

## My Parish Prayer

Almighty God, My parish is composed of people like me.  
 I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am.  
 Its pews will be filled if I help fill them.  
 It will do great work if I work. It will be prayerful if I pray.  
 It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver.  
 It will bring other people into its worship if I invite and bring them.  
 It will be a parish family of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith,  
 and of compassion, charity, and mercy if I - who make it what it is -  
 am filled with these same qualities.  
 Therefore, with the help of God,  
 I will dedicate myself to the task of being all the things I want my parish to be.  
 Bless my journey Lord God, that I might follow Jesus and build the Church for your glory. Amen.



**Please Support & Thank Our Advertisers! They make our bulletin possible.**

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<p><b>COME JOIN</b>  <b>Knights of Columbus</b>                  Tri-Cities Council # 1098                  4225 OLD ALTON ROAD  <b>618-877-4250</b>                  MEETINGS 2ND &amp; 4TH TUESDAY                  7:30 P.M.</p>	<p><b>Scott's Auto Service</b>                  SPECIALIZING IN:                  Engine Diagnostics, Electrical Diagnostics,                  Engine Repairs, Emissions Repairs,                  Computer Programming, Brakes, A/C,                  Suspensions, Exhaust &amp; Transmissions</p> <p>  </p> <p>4012 North St. • Granite City • <b>797-7812</b></p>	<p><b>Irwin Chapel</b>                  "Honoring Life"                  Granite City • Glen Carbon</p>	<p><b>Carpet, Hardwood, Ceramic, Tile,                  Luxury Vinyl, Tile - Planks</b>  <b>WE COVER IT ALL...</b></p> <p><b>Vallow</b>                  Floor Design Center &amp; Outlet                  Mark Vallow Seth Renken                  1009 Plummer Drive • Edwardsville  <b>vallowfloor.com • 618-656-7788</b></p>
<p>  <b>REVITY</b>                  CREDIT UNION                  RevityCU.com</p>	<p><b>St. Elizabeth</b>  <b>MENS CLUB</b>                  Meetings Monthly                  (Except July &amp; August)                  1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.                  In School Cafeteria  <b>All Men Of Parish Welcome</b></p>	<p><b>CARROLLTON</b>  <b>BANK</b></p>	<p><b>DIOCESAN VICTIM</b>  <b>ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR</b>                  and liaison between the Diocese and                  anyone with an allegation of                  sexual abuse of a minor.  <b>Alison Smith</b>                  (217) 321-1155</p>
<p><b>St. Elizabeth</b>  <b>Ladies Sodality</b>                  Meetings in the Harmony Room  <b>4th Tuesday</b>                  6 p.m. Snack                  6:30 p.m. Meeting                  except June, July, &amp; December  <b>ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME</b></p>	<p>  <b>The Flower Emporium</b>  <b>618-931-6593</b>                  520 E. Chain of Rocks Rd., Granite City, IL</p>		<p></p> <p><b>Trade your                  distractions                  for deeper                  peace.</b></p> <p><b>We start Jan. 1, 2024:</b> </p> <p><a href="http://MenOfExodus.com">MenOfExodus.com</a></p>
<p>  <b>Everyone Welcome, Come Enjoy                  Open to the Public!</b></p> <p><b>BINGO (8 times a week)</b>                  Lounge                  Bowling Machine                  Shuffle Board                  Gaming Room                  Banquet Rooms</p> <p><b>TRI-CITIES COLUMBUS HOME ASSOCIATION</b>                  MEETING PLACE OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS                  4225 OLD ALTON RD                  GRANITE CITY, IL 62040  <b>618-877-4250</b></p>			